

**APEL za hitnu pomoć Federicu Mayoru,
generalnom direktoru UNESCO-a (22. 10. 1991.)**

Federico Mayor
Generalni direktor
UNESCO

Apel za hitnu pomoć UNESCO-a

Obraćamo vam se kao Institut koji se trideset godina bavi Dubrovnikom i njegovim teritorijem, posvećujući mu povijesno-umjetnička istraživanja i sudjelujući u zaštiti njegovih spomenika i prostora. U tom smo smislu sigurno najkompetentnija znanstvena ustanova. Ne pišemo vam, međutim, ovaj put radi dubrovačkih spomenika. Potreseni pratimo užase i zločine u ovom gradu i oko njega, lišeni svake mogućnosti da nastavimo svoj rad i da kontaktiramo sa svojim kolegama. O imenima poginulih čujemo s radija, imena srušenih kulturnih dobara ruše dio po dio smisla našega rada i naših života. U Dubrovniku i oko njega sada šezdeset tisuća ljudi živi u situaciji srednjovjekovne opsade, gladuje, boluje i iznad svega strahuje da ne bude zaklano, kao što se to već dogodilo na mnogim mjestima u Hrvatskoj. Europa sada centrirala svoje napore oko Dubrovnika na humanitarne akcije, brodove s bolesnicima, Crveni križ, konvoje s lijekovima i hranom... Gospodo, nitko pri tome ne postavlja prvo i osnovno pitanje: kako je moguće da su humanitarni konvoji potrebni ondje gdje je još prije nekoliko tjedana bio cvatući grad? S kojim opravdanjem vojska zaposjeda teritorij na kojemu nije bilo nijedne kasarne ni vojnog postrojenja, nikakva nemira ni sukoba? Koja to država, koja to nacija i s kakvim pokrićem napada grad koji je više od 94% hrvatski, a teritorij mu je hrvatski gotovo 100%? Kad Europa tako lako prihvaća očito jedini argument u igri, argument nadmoćne osvajačke vojne sile, ne pomišlja li da presedan nametanja vojne sile lako mijenja mjesto, vrijeme i proporcije?

Kao znanstvena ustanova svaku riječ ovoga apela, ma kako teška bila, jamčimo onim na što nas znanost obvezuje: na nepristranu i odgovornu istinu.

Na narednoj stranici prilažemo potpise trideset jednoga člana našeg Instituta.

**An APPEAL for emergency aid addressed to
Federico Mayor, General Director of UNESCO (22
October 1991)**

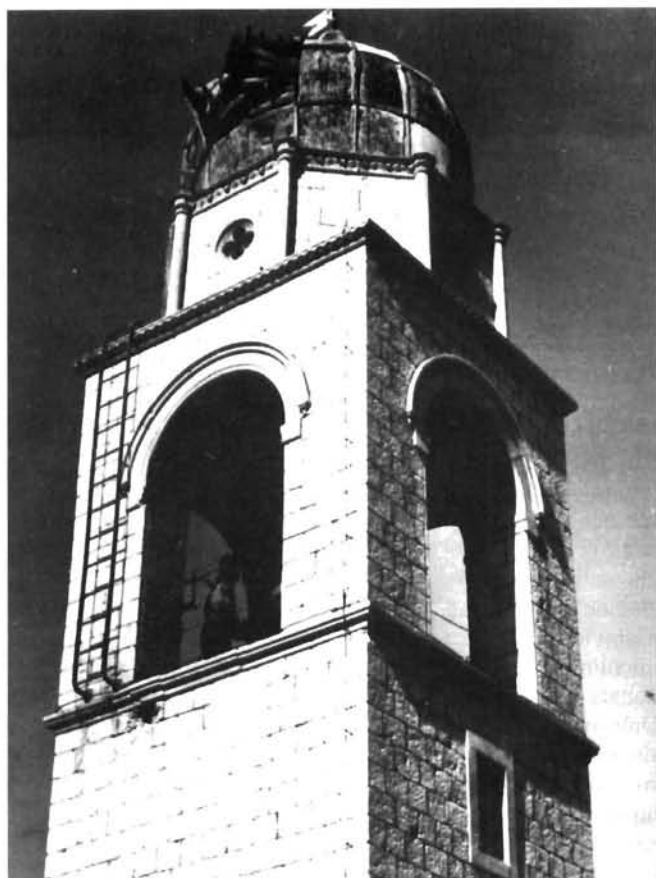
Federico Mayor
Director-General
UNESCO

Appeal for the urgent help of UNESCO

For more than thirty years, the Institute for History of Art of the Zagreb University has cared for the City of Dubrovnik, researching and taking part in the protection and preservation of its monuments and environs. As regards this, we are certainly the most competent scientific institution in this country. But this time we are not appealing on behalf of Dubrovnik's world heritage status as an historic town; with deep distress we are daily watching the criminal horror of war atrocities in the City itself and its surroundings. We are deprived of any possibility to continue our work or to contact our fellow art historians there. The names of the dead we learn over some still active amateur transmitters; the meaning of our work and of our lives vanishes piecemeal with news of every destroyed object of culture. There are now about sixty thousand people in Dubrovnik or around living in a medieval state of siege, starving, sick and, above all, in fear of being literally slain by the invaders, as has already happened in many places in Croatia. European institutions are focussing their efforts now on humanitarian aid, on ships with sick and wounded, on Red Cross activities and food convoys... but so far, nobody has asked one simple and fundamental question: how come that such humanitarian convoys are all of a sudden necessary there, where only a few weeks ago stood a prosperous and thriving city? What justifies an army in occupying territory where are no barracks, no threatening military installations, no riots, no "ethnic" clashes whatsoever? What state, what nation under what pretext can attack the city with 94% of Croatian population in a region which is 100% Croatian? It seems as if European institutions all too easily accept the only argument in this game: the argument of an overwhelming military power and of ordinary land-grabbing, forgetting that this may easily serve as the precedent to change time, place and proportions.

These may be rather harsh words, but as scientists we have an obligation to unbiased and responsible judgement; in other words, to truth.

On the following page we enclose thirty-one signature of members of our Institute.



Dubrovnik, Gradski zvonik
Dubrovnik, town bell-tower

Pismo gospodinu Federicu Mayoru, generalnom direktoru UNESCO-a (25. 10. 1991.)

G. Federico Mayor
Director-General
UNESCO
Place de Fontenoy
75700 Paris

Štovani gospodine,

Pišemo Vam po drugi put u nekoliko dana. Čuli smo da ste se obratili "objema zaraćenim stranama" s preporukom da poštuju spomenički grad Dubrovnik. Zar Vi niste svjesni da je jedna od dviju "zaraćenih strana" Dubrovnik sam, ili zaista mislite da se Dubrovnik bori protiv sebe? Ne postoje "dvije zaraćene strane", nego agresor i napadnuti, i prelaziti preko toga općenitim i neutralizirajućim formulacijama znači zaobilaziti pravo stanje stvari.

(sastavila Željka Čorak)

A letter to Mr Federico Mayor, General Director of UNESCO (25 October 1991)

Mr. Federico Mayor
Director-General
UNESCO
Place de Fontenoy
75700 Paris

Dear Sir:

We are writing to you for the second time in a few days. We have heard that you have addressed "both warring parties" with a recommendation to respect Dubrovnik the town - monument. Are you not aware that one of the two "warring parties" is Dubrovnik itself? Or do you actually believe that Dubrovnik is fighting against itself? There are not "two warring parties", but the aggressor and the attacked, and annihilating these facts with general and disengaged phrasing means skirting round the actual state of the matter.

For members of the Institute
dr. Ivanka Reberski